Sale of Khadi Products

132. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production and sale of Khadi products had registered a decreasing trend after 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would make it mandatory for Government/ Public Sector Organization to buy khadi products according to need, to develop Khadi industries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) On account of inadequate attention by khadi institutions/producers to production and sales planning, particularly quality and marketability of product, and worsening of working capital availability due to high levels of unsold stocks and delay in receipt of rebates admissible to them, there was decline in the production and sales of khadi and khadi products during 1998-99 to 2001-02, as detailed below:

(Rs. crore)

Year	Prodcution value	Sales value
1998-99	635.89	647.83
1999-00	551.94	631.79
2000-01	431.57	570.55
2001-02	416.69	527.86

The production and sales of khadi have increased in the last three years (2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05) as detailed below:

(Rs. crore)

Year	Prodcution value	Sales value
2002-03	443.07	577.63
2003-04	453.50	587.04
2004-05	461.54	617.84

(c) No, Sir. However, the following steps have been taken to enhance purchase of khadi and village industries products by Central and State Government Ministries/Departments/Organisations/RSUs:—

(i) Various Ministries of the Central Government have issued instructions to their offices and PSUs to make local purchase of stationery and other articles from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

(ii) A number of khadi and village industries (KVI) items are covered under the Rate Contract System of the Directorate General of Supply and Disposals, Government of India. Besides, in order to ensure smooth supply of KVI products to Government Ministries/ Departments, PSUs, etc., KVIC has decentralized Government supply activities in the Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans located at Mumbai, Patna, Kolkata, Bangalore, Bhopal and New Delhi.

(iii) The Railway Board has also issued a circular directing all zonal railways to procure kulhars, polyvastra bed sheets and pillow covers from the KVIC.

Traditional and cottage industries

†133. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of several steps taken by Government for improving the traditional and cottage industries during the last few years, the migration of rural youths in search of jobs towards the cities has increased manifold;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the reasons for migration of youth to the cities from village;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check this tendency?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.